

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01 /107 W
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R 110541 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8724

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 2930

DEPT PLEASE PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, AF, IR, PK, UR

SUBJ: "FREE" BALUCHISTAN: CARTOGRAPHIC AGGRESSION

SUMMARY: GOP- CONTROLLED PRESS APRIL 8 CARRIED STORY
LINKING OPPOSITION NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP) WITH BAGHDAD-
BASED BALUCHISTAN LIBERATION FRONT (BLF). MOST ALLEGA-
TIONS IN STORY WERE ANCIENT HISTORY CULLED FROM OLD
BLF PUBLICATIONS, AND EMPHASIZED ALLEGED SOVIET SUPPORT FOR
BALUCH IRREDENTIST CLAIMS. PRESUMABLY BECUASE OF CURRENT GOP
EFFORTS TO REPAIR RELATIONS WITH USSR, FOREIGN MINISTRY FELT
CONSTRAINED NEXT DAY TO ISSUE VAGUE DENIAL OF SOVIET
INVOLVEMENT. END SUMMARY

1. GOVERNMENT- CONTROLLED PAKISTAN TIMES AND OTHER NATIONAL
PRESS TRUST PAPERS APRIL 8 CARRIED ARTICLE BY " SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT" ALLEGING THAT PAMPHLETS AND MAP ISSUED
BY BAGHDAD- BASED BALUCHISTAN LIBERATION FRONT (BLF)
" EXPOSED" NAP AMD SOVIET " DESIGNS" IN BAPUCHISTAN. ARTICLE
WAS ACCOMPANIED BY OUTLINE MAP OF " FREE " BALUCHISTAN
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RUNNING FROM INDIAN OCEAN TO TURKESTAN AND INCLUDING PARTS OF AFGHANISTAN, IRAN, PAKISTAN AND USSR. ARTICLE POINTED OUT THAT MAP INCLUDED NOT ONLY ALL OF PAK BALUCHISTAN BUT PARTS OF SIND AND PUNJAB PROVINCES AS WELL. IT SUGGESTED THAT PARTS OF USSR WERE INCLUDED IN " FREE" BALUCHISTAN " PRESUMABLY AS A BAIT".

2. ARTICLE ASSERTED THAT MAP CLEARLY REVEALED SOVIET PLAN TO BYPASS AFGHANISTAN (IGNORING FACT THAT MAP ALSO TOOK IN PART OF AFGHANISTAN) AND " LINK" WITH NEW STATE OF BALUCHISTAN, WHICH WOULD " BE EVENTUALLY INCORPORATED IN THE (SOVIET) UNION". THIS WOULD GIVE USSR DIRECT ACCESS TO WARM WATERS OF ARABIAN SEA THROUGH CONTROL OF " NEW BALUCHISTAN" THAT WOULD HAVE 375,000 SQUARE MILES OF TERRITORY AND THOUSAND- MILE COASTLINE. ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT MAP POINTED TOWARD DISINTEGRATION OF IRAN AND PAKISTAN; " RUSSIAN SWAY" OVER ARABIAN SEA, GULF OF OMAN AND PERSIAN GULF; AND " COMPLETE STRANGULATION OF MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA".

3. ARTICLE ALSO MENTIONED ANOTHER ALLEGED PAMPHLET ISSUED BY " BALUCH NATIONAL PARTY" (DESCRIBED AS ONE- TIME UNDERGROUND CLIQUE OF BALUCH SARDARS IN PAKISTAN), ENTITLED " AN APPEAL FOR JUSTICE AGAINST INYUMAN GENOCIDE TJTOOPPERSION BY PAKISTAN AND OCCUPATIONISTS IN BALUCHISTAN". ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, THIS PAMPHLET ASSAILED " VERY BASIS OF (BALUCHISTAN) BECOMING PART OF PAKISTAN", AND CALLED BALUCHISTAN " SEPARATE COUNTRY, ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED".

4. SAME GOP- CONTROLLED PAPERS APRIL 9 CARRIED FRONT PAGE " CLARIFICATION" OF PREVIOUS DAY' S REPORT, QUOTING " INFORMED SOURCES" IN ISLAMABAD (READ FOREIGN MINISTRY) AS SAYING THAT " NO CONFIRMATION WAS AVAILABLE ... ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION" IN THE IRREDENTIST BALUCH " DESIGN PREPARED IN BAGHDAD". ARTICLE CONTINUED THAT " INFORMED SOURCES" HAD POINTED OUT THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN USSR AND PAKISTAN " HAVE BEEN STEADILY IMPROVING". CITED AS EXAMPLES OF " IMPROVEMENT" WERE SOVIET WITHDRAWAL OF FISHING TRAWLERS AFTER GOP EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL FISHING TRAWLERS AFTER GOP EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL FISHING WATERS TO 50 MILES OFF COAST, RECENT VISIT OF SOVIET ECONOMIC DELEGATION, AND SOVIET RELEASE OF PAKISTAN

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FROM RESPONSIBILTITY FOR DEBTS FROM EAST PAKISTAN DEVELOPMENT

LOANS.

6. COMMENT: IN CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE APRIL 9,
PRESIDENT BHUTTO' S SPECIAL ASSISTANT RAFI RAZA CITED
APRIL 8 ARTICLE AS PRIME EXAMPLE OF INCOMPETENCE OF GOP
INFORMATION ESTABLISHMENT. SEEMS CLEAR THAT
EPISODE WAS MERELY ANOTHER
INFORMATION MINISTRY ATTEMPT TO KEEP UP PROPAGANDA PRESSURE
ON NAP RATHER THAN CALCULATED ATTEMPT TO HARASS SOVIETS.
EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS BLF PAMPHLETS AND MAP ARE SEVERAL
YEARS OLD. PROMPTNESS AND FULLNESS OF SUBSEQUENT
DISCLAIMER SUGGESTS THAT AT LEAST SOME
CIRCLES IN GOP ARE ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO AVOID AFFRONT
TO SOVIETS AT THIS TIME.
SOBER

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED TO BAGHDAD.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ISLAMA02930
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730439/aaaaibps.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971217
Subject: " FREE" BALUCHISTAN: CARTOGRAPHIC AGGRESSION
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, AF, IR, PK, UR
To: KABUL
KARACHI
LAHORE
MOSCOW
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TEHRAN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005